

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Kazuo ISHIKAWA et al.

Serial No.: **NEW APPLICATION**

Filing Date: March 15, 2004

For: STORAGE APPARATUS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents are also submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted together with the filing of this application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.

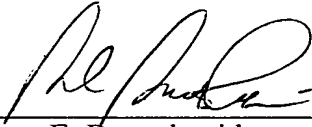
Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicants petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing 524642002100. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: March 15, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Barry E. Bretschneider
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Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Docket Number 524642002100	Application Number NEW APPLICATION
	Applicant Kazuo ISHIKAWA	
	Filing Date March 15, 2004	Group Art Unit Not Yet Assigned
	Mailing Date March 15, 2004	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	1.						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Date	Document No.	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation YES NO
	2.	07/18/1991	3-34048	Japan			
	3.	10/23/1990	2-260379	Japan			Abstract
	4.	04/27/1994	6-32393	Japan			X
	5.	07/14/2000	3088349	Japan			X
	6.	02/22/989	64-6763	Japan			
	7.	11/14/1994	6-44023	Japan			

OTHER DOCUMENTS

(including author, title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner Initials	Ref. No.	Title
	3.	

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not the citation conforms with MPEP 609. Draw a line through the citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.